II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A system for mapping a network, comprising:

a collection system for collecting device identification and detail information from devices on the network by communicating with each device to retrieve the device identification and detail information, wherein the detail information includes device characteristic information and software information;

a timer system for collecting the device identification and detail information at predetermined scheduled times;

an analysis system for analyzing the collected device identification and detail information; and

a report system for generating a mapping report based on the analyzed device identification and detail information.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the collection system comprises at least one collection tool for collecting the device identification and detail information.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, wherein the analysis system comprises rules for resolving any conflicts between device identification and detail information collected by the at least one collection tool.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the device identification and detail information includes device identities, device types, device addresses, device characteristics, operating system and application software installed on the devices, and software characteristics of the devices on the network.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the generated mapping report includes the device identities, device types, the device addresses, the device characteristics, the operating system and application software installed on the devices, and the software characteristics.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a permission system for gaining user access to the network.

7. (Previously Presented) A system for mapping a network, comprising:

a collection system that comprises collection tools for collecting device identification and detail information from devices on the network by communicating with each device to retrieve the device identification and detail information, wherein the detail information includes device characteristic information and software information;

a timer system for collecting the device identification and detail information at predetermined scheduled times;

an analysis system for analyzing the device identification and detail information, wherein the analysis system includes rules for resolving any conflicts between device identification and detail information collected by the collection tools; and

a report system for generating a mapping report based on the analyzed device identification and detail information.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the device identification and detail information includes device identities, device types, device addresses, device characteristics, operating system and application software installed on the devices, and software characteristics for the devices on the network.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the mapping report generated by the report system identifies the device identities, device types, the device addresses, the device characteristics, the operating system and application software installed on the devices, and the software characteristics.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the report system outputs the generated report.

11. (Original) The system of claim 7, further comprising a permission system for gaining user access to the network.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for mapping a network, comprising the steps of:

installing collection tools on a collection apparatus;

communicating with the network using the collection apparatus;

operating the collection tools to collect device identification and detail information from

devices on the network by communicating with each device to retrieve the device identification and detail information, wherein the detail information includes device characteristic information and software information;

analyzing the device identification and detail information; and

reporting the analyzed device identification and detail information.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the collection apparatus comprises at least one processor.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of clam 12, wherein the device identification and detail information includes device types, device addresses, device characteristics, operating system and application software installed on the devices, and software characteristics for the devices on the network.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the analyzing step further comprises the step of resolving any conflicts between device identification and detail information collected by different collection tools.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the reporting step comprises the step of generating a mapping report based on the analyzed device identification and detail information.

17. (Currently Amended) A program product stored on a recordable media for mapping a network, which when executed, comprises:

a collection system for collecting device identification and detail information from devices on the network by communicating with each device to retrieve the device identification and detail information, wherein the detail information includes device characteristic information and software information;

a timer system for collecting the device identification and detail information at predetermined scheduled times;

an analysis system for analyzing the collected device identification and detail information; and

a report system for generating a mapping report based on the analyzed device identification and detail information.

18. (Previously Presented) The program product of claim 17, wherein the collection system comprises at least one collection tool for collecting device identification and detail information.

19. (Previously Presented) The program product of claim 17, wherein the analysis system comprises rules for resolving any conflicts between device identification and detail information collected by the collection tools.

20. (Previously Presented) The program product of claim 17, wherein the device identification and detail information includes device identities, device types, device addresses, device characteristics, operating system and application software installed on the devices, and software characteristics of the devices on the network.

21. (Previously Presented) The program product of claim 20, wherein the generated mapping report identifies the device identities, device types, the device addresses, the device characteristics, the operating system and application software installed on the devices, and the software characteristics.

22. (Original) The program product of claim 17, further comprising a permission system for gaining user access to the network and the devices.

23. (Previously Presented) A computer system for mapping a network, comprising:

a processor;

a computer system memory;

an interface; and

a software product stored on the computer system memory and executable by the processor, wherein the software product comprises:

a collection system for collecting device identification and detail information from devices on the network by communicating with each device to retrieve the device identification and detail information, wherein the detail information includes device

characteristic information and software information;

a timer system for collecting the device identification and detail information at predetermined scheduled times;

an analysis system for analyzing the collected device identification and detail information; and

a report system for generating a mapping report based on the analyzed device identification and detail information.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 23, wherein the collection system comprises at least one collection tool for collecting device identification and detail information.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 23, wherein the analysis system comprises rules for resolving any conflicts between device identification and detail information collected by the collection tools.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 23, wherein the device identification and detail information includes device identities, device types, device addresses, device characteristics, operating system and application software installed on the devices, and software characteristics of the devices on the network.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 26, wherein the generated mapping report identifies the device identities, device types, the device addresses, the device characteristics, the operating system and application software installed on the devices, and the software characteristics.

28. (Original) The computer system of claim 23, further comprising a permission system for gaining user access to the network.